

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the following paragraphs with the following amended paragraphs:

[0021] In the illustrated embodiment, the barrier sheet **106** extends from the foot of the blanket **10** to the opening **104**. In another embodiment, the barrier sheet **106** extends the full length of the blanket **10**, with the portion covering the opening **104** cut out. Also illustrated in FIG. 2 is a barrier sheet **106'** that is used with another embodiment instead of the shorter sheet **106**. The long barrier sheet **106'** extends the full length of the blanket **10**, with an opening **104'** coinciding with the opening **104** and with a cutout portion **102'** coinciding with the neck slot **102**. The illustrated embodiment shows the long barrier sheet **106'** wider than the opening **104**; however, if the barrier sheet **106'** is no wider than the opening **104**, then the barrier sheet **106'** will be in two sections. Although FIG. 2 illustrates two barrier sheets **106**, **106'**, it is intended that only one sheet **106**, **106'** be used for each embodiment.

[0023] In one embodiment, the blanket **10** is ~~sterilized~~sterilizable for use in a sterile environment. In one such embodiment, the blanket **10** is ~~sterilized~~sterilizable by conventional sterilization techniques. The material of the sheets **202**, **204** and **106** of blanket **10** is such that conventional sterilization techniques do not damage or degrade the material. It is understood by those skilled in the art, that once ~~One~~ sterilized, the blanket **10** is placed in a protected container, package or carrier which prevents the blanket **10** from being contaminated.